

**Amending The 2024 Ulster County Budget For ARPA SLRF Related Grant Program For Broadband Access – Department Of Finance**

Referred to: The American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee (Chairman Criswell and Legislators Corcoran, Levine, Lopez, and Sperry), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Roberts, and Ronk)

Chairman of the ARPA Special Committee, Peter J. Criswell, Deputy Chair Thomas Corcoran, Jr., and Legislators Fabiano, Levine, Maloney, Nolan, Petit and Stewart offer the following offer the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been submitted at the request of the County Executive on behalf of the Department of Finance; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Treasury has awarded Ulster County for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$34,491,474.00; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Treasury has adopted a Final Rule for use of funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that supports using ARPA funding to address economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic and to lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery; and

WHEREAS, regulations implemented by the United State Treasury Department in their published Final Rule (31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77) includes making necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, access to broadband is an eligible ARPA activity and recognized by multiple other grant programs such as ConnectAll in New York that focus on unserved and underserved areas that are generally geared to “wired” access to broadband; and

WHEREAS, improving access to wireless broadband at public locations to allow for public internet access, including continuity during an emergency, is critical for the public to gather current information and maintain communication; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of this resolution to provide funding for broadband access to municipal and non-profit organizations, including libraries, community centers, designated emergence shelters, main streets, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County will work cooperatively with the Ulster County Digital Commission, emergency services providers, and local elected officials to develop the criteria for funding eligibility; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that individual project awards will be in between \$700.00 and \$7,000.00; now, therefore be it

**Resolution No. 690      December 18, 2023**

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RESOLVED, the 2024 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-1310.1088-4600.4660 (App. #)	Misc. Contractual Expense (Broadband Infrastructure)	\$130,000.00
AA-1310.1088-3400.4095 (Rev. #),	Federal Aid, General Gov't	\$130,000.00

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 20                  NOES: 2  
(Noes: Legislators Bartels and Maloney)  
(Absent: Legislator Stewart)

No Action Taken in Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on November 29, 2023

Passed by Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on December 12, 2023

Passed by Committee: Ways and Means on December 12, 2023

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

\$130,000.00 – ADDITIONAL 2024 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$130,000.00 – ADDITIONAL 2024 FEDERAL REVENUE DOLLARS

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STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 18<sup>th</sup> Day of December in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of December in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella  
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk  
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this  
22<sup>nd</sup> Day of December 2023.

Approved by the County Executive this  
26<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2023.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella  
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk  
Ulster County Legislature

[s] Jen Metzger  
Jen Metzger, County Executive